What is Carbohydrate Counting?

A method of meal planning which controls the total amount of carbohydrates eaten per day.

Eat a consistent amount of carbohydrates throughout the day. Eat about the same time each day.







One Carbohydrate Choice

sugar, honey, jelly



½ Cup of Juice

Equals 15 Grams of

Carbohydrate



1 small fruit



 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup or 1 ounce chips or pretzels



3 cups raw 1 ½ cup cooked vegetables



How Do Carbohydrates Function?

All carbohydrates are broken down to glucose

All carbohydrates provide the same number of calories

(4 per gram)

Extra carbohydrates are stored as fat for later use

Carbohydrates are the body's main source of fuel Carbohydrates are stored in the liver as fuel reserves

Carbohydrate Foods Are Sugar, Starch and Fiber One Serving Equals 15 Grams of Carbohydrate

Food Group and Serving Size	Food Type
Starch 1 slice bread	Bread, rolls, bagels, English muffins, tortillas, and pita bread
1/3 cup pasta or rice	Pasta, noodles, spaghetti, macaroni and rice
1/2 cup cereal	Oatmeal, bran flakes
1/2 cup starchy vegetables	Potatoes, corn, peas, acorn squash
1/2 cup dried beans or peas	Legumes: lentils, dried beans, (garbanzo, kidney, black, and butter beans), dried peas (split peas and black-eyed peas)
Fruit 1/2 large or 1 small	Apples, oranges, bananas, and other fruits
1/2 cup	Fresh, frozen, canned or juiced
Dairy Products 1 cup	All milk – 1% or skim are better choices
6 ounces	Yogurt (plain or artificially sweetened)
1 cup	Sugar-free hot chocolate mixes
Vegetables 3 cups raw or 11/2 cups cooked	Carrots, green beans, broccoli, greens, okra and other crunchy vegetables not listed under the starch group
Other (2 carbohydrates) 1 slice	Foods that include any of the items below: restaurant-style pizza – medium slice
1 cup	Tuna or macaroni and cheese casserole
Other (1 carbohydrate) 1 cup	Chicken noodle soup
1 cup	Beef stew
Dessert/Sweets (1 carbohydrate) 1 tablespoon	Sugar, honey, jelly
1/2 cup	Ice cream, frozen yogurt
2 small cookies	Small commercial-type cookies
Dessert/Sweets (2 carbohydrates) 1/2 slice of pie or cake	Dessert style pie and cake
Snack Foods (1 carbohydrate) 1/2 cup or 1 ounce	Pretzels
3 cups	Popcorn, popped, no added fat